6. Officials placed under suspension :

(a) Shri Satish Kumar, Tehsildar

(b) Shri Soran Singh, Tehsildar

(c) Shri Dinesh Kumar, Tehsildar

(d) Shri Harshvardhan, Patwari

(e) Shri Jai Parkash Verma, Kanoongo

(f) Shri Mahinder Singh, Patwari

(g) Shri Yog Raj Sharma, Asstt. Director

(h) Shri Parag, Sectional Officer.

Clean Administration

4987. SHRI KASHI RAM RANA :
SHRI SANDIPAN THORAT :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken fresh initiatives in its fight to curb corruption through formulating effective laws, policies and anti-corruption programmes with national and international cooperation,

(b) if so,the details thereof;

(c) the steps proposed to enchance transparency and accountability in international business transactions and in public administration; and

(d) whether similar measures being taken in various States, have been reviewed recently for a sharper focus to deal with the problem more effectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN) : (a) to (d) A conference of Chief Secretaries of States and Union Territories was held on 20.11.1966 to discuss the issues of making administration responsive, accountable and effective, cleansing the civil services and ensuring its adherence to constitutional principles. The Conference recommended, *inter alia*, that :

(i) The approach to the elimination of corruption in the public service needs to address prevention, surveillance and deterrent prosecution and deal ruthlessly with the nexus between ciriminals and unscrupulous elements.

(ii) It is necessary to introduce greater transparency and openness in the functioning of Government and public bodies. This would cover, for example, movement towards a Right to Information Act.

(iii) Accountability should be interpreted in a larger sense in order to ensure public satisfaction and responsive delivery of services. For this purpose, a phased introduction of Citizens, Charter for as many service institutions as possible could be considered.

The recommendations of the Conference have been given wide publicity and are being followed up within the Central Government and with the State Governments for urgent processing.

Some of the steps initiated by the Government in the recent past are as follows:

- The Lokpal Bill has been introduced in Parliament.
- A Working Group on Right to Information and promotion of open and transparent Government was set up to examine, *inter alia*, the feasibility of right to information and to recommend measures for bringing about greater transparency and openness in functioning of Government agencies.
- The Government has decided to set up computerised facilitation counters near the Reception offices at Government buildings housing various Ministries/Departments.
- Steps have been initiated for formulation of Citizens' Charter by a number of Central Ministries and Departments with public interface.
- The Ministries/ Departments have been requested to review the regulatory and legal framework under their purview to see whether the regulations administered by them are serving the objectives for which they were framed and how these could be made citizen friendly.

Benefits to Beedi Workers

4988. SHRI DADA BABURAO PARANJPE : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether even one fourth of Bidi workers who had been issued identity cards by the Labour Department of Madhya Pradesh, are not getting the benefit thereof;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken by the Union Government and State Governments for providing full benefit of Provident Fund to the Beedi Workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) No Sir. In Madhya Pradesh 6,71,267 beedi workers have been issued identity cards out of an estimated 7,50,000 beedi workers. So far 4,16,628 beedi workers have received various kinds of benefits from the Welfare Fund.